



Confined
Aquifer

Vote NO On HB 831

This bill has three glaring problems for a Montana Citizen trying to utilize the abundant ground water found in Montana.

I. It does not define net depletion or adverse effect.

The DNRC in the recent past has defined any theoretical effect on surface water as adverse effect with no time limit. The theoretical model can show an adverse effect in one year or 100 years and less than 5 gpm.

Real-measurable effect on senior water right holders has to be the criteria to allow use of Montana's ground water.

II An astronomical cost to do the ground water studies eliminates the average Montana citizen from ever being able to use underground water.

III. Attempting to satisfy one agency is very difficult. But three agencies as in this bill is beyond comprehension.

